Issue) has not been permitted in the VIII Issues & as, unlike the VI and VII Issue (which were restricted to individual investors), the new series is open for institutional investors also.

Proposal to encourage NRI investment

2057. SHRI ARANGIL SHREEDHARAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether NRI problems were discussed between the Minister of Finance and Minister of Industry in recent Seminar/Conference; and

(b) if so, whether certain attractive proposals were envisaged to induce more NRIs to invest in production oriented programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) The Government receives various proposals for attracting NRI investments from different organisations. The existing rules and regulations are kept under constant review and suitable changes are made wherever considered necessary.

Issue of import licences for importing gold

2058. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government issue import licences to the jewellers for importing gold;

(b) if so, the criteria laid down therefor; and

(c) whether any importer/exporter can apply under this scheme and if so, what are the broad outlines of this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DASMUNSHI): (a) to (c). Import of Gold is allowed for export production only. The details are given in Chapter—XIX and XXI Part—B o fthe Import and Export Policy, 1988—91 (Vol. I) and the corresponding chapters of the Hand Book of Procedures, 1988—91. Copies of these books are available in Parliament Library.

Spy network in the country

2059. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of organised spy network which have been busted or detected by Government since 1980;

(b) what is the total number of persons arrested in each of these rackets;

(c) whether prosecutions have been launched or other action have been taken in each of these cases;

(d) what steps are being taken to prevent such spy networks from operating in the country; and

(e) whether Government have been able to identify the countries which are involved in these spy networks against our country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) According to available information, 691 organised spy network were detected since 1980.

(b) 970.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) Constant vigilance is being maintained by concerned agencies to unearth, detect and neutralise any attempt at espionage by any individual or organisation.

It is not in public interest to divluge further details.